

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Applicant(s):</b> Lacan et al.	<b>Art Unit:</b> 2136
<b>Filing Date:</b> 11/16/2001	<b>Conf No.:</b> 8419
<b>Serial No.:</b> 09/988,320	<b>Examiner:</b> Cervetti, David Garcia
<b>Title:</b> DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD	<b>Docket No.:</b> CHA920010022US1 (IBMC-0039)

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

**I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

This paper is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated July 20, 2007 and is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.